

62. (original) A cutting element as in claim 61, wherein said first material is in the form of a column positioned on the axis of the contact structure.
63. (previously amended) A cutting element as in claim 61 wherein the cross-sectioned area of said material of first hardness is less than 10% of the total cross-sectioned areas of the contact structure.
64. (original) A cutting element as in claim 61, wherein the material of wear resistance on the tapered structure is at least 300 points softer than the wear resistant material of the cutting tip.

REMARKS

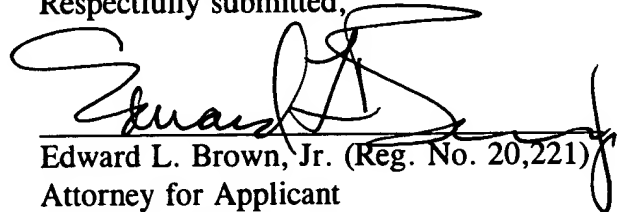
The previously withdrawn Claims 18, 19, and 26-30, as not reading on the elected species of Figure 11, have been cancelled.

Claims 16 and 17 have been amended so as to be dependent upon generic Claim 51. Claim 51 appears to be allowable in its currently amended form for the reasons argued in the previous amendment mailed March 29, 2004.

Claims 59-64 appear to be allowable since they contain the same amendments as included in Claim 51 for the reasons argued in the last amendment of March 29, 2004.

The application appears to be in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this "Supplemental Amendment" is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as priority class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

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